

COMMUNICATIONS
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3131
PATENT

Case Docket No. AKIOWAK.004A

Date: June 3, 2002

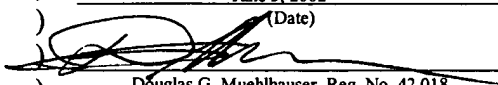
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Akio Wakabayashi, M.D.
Appl. No. : 10/084,689
Filed : February 26, 2002
For : APPARATUS AND METHOD
FOR SUTURING IN
RESTRICTED SPACE
Examiner : Unknown
Group Art Unit : 3731

) I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked
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June 3, 2002

(Date)


Douglas G. Muehlhauser, Reg. No. 42,018

TRANSMITTAL LETTER


United States Patent and Trademark Office
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Arlington, VA 22202

ATTENTION: APPLICATION BRANCH

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application are:

- (X) An Information Disclosure Statement.
- (X) A PTO Form 1449 with seven (7) references.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, which may be required to Account No. 11-1410.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.


Douglas G. Muehlhauser
Registration No. 42,018
Attorney of Record

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WAK.004A

PATENT

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Applicant	:	Akio Wakabayashi, M.D.	Group Art Unit 3731
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Examiner	:	Unknown	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

United States Patent and Trademark Office
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Dear Sir:

Enclosed is form PTO-1449 listing seven (7) references that are also enclosed. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the receipt of a first Office Action on the merits, and presumably no fee is required in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). If a first Office Action on the merits was mailed before the mailing date of this Statement, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 6/3/02

By: 

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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
AKIOWAK.004AAPPLICATION NO.
10/084,689INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT

(USE SEVERAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

APPLICANT
Akio Wakabayashi, M.D.FILING DATE
February 26, 2002GROUP
3731

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (IF APPROPRIATE)
	4,669,473	06/02/87	Richards et al.			
	4,741,330	05/03/88	Hayhurst			
	5,290,297	03/01/94	Phillips			
	5,330,442	07/19/94	Green et al.			
	5,593,442	01/14/97	Muijs Van de Moer et al.			
	5,626,614	05/06/97	Hart			
	5,951,576	09/14/99	Wakabayashi			

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)

EXAMINER INITIAL	

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053102

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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